

31. (Amended) An RNA comprising the consensus sequence UAUUUUUUUAAAUAUUU AAANUUUAUAUUUAUUNUUNNAUNNANGNUNNNCUANCUNUUNUA (SEQ ID NO:16) and having a first double stranded region, a first end loop region, a first internal loop region, a second double stranded region, a second internal loop region, a third double stranded region, a second end loop region, a fourth [doble] double stranded region, and a third end loop region.

B<sup>1</sup> 32. (Amended) An *in silico* representation of an RNA fragment that is conserved across at least two species comprising the sequence UAUUUUUUUAAAUAUUUAAANUUUAUAUU UAUUNUUNNAUNNANGNUNNNCUANCUNUUNUA (SEQ ID NO:16).

33. (Amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment that is conserved across at least two species comprising the sequence UAUUUUUUUAAAUAUUUAAANUUUAUAUUUAUUN UUNNAUNNANGNUNNNCUANCUNUUNUA (SEQ ID NO:16).

34. (Amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment comprising the human sequence UAUUUUUUUAAAUAUUUAAAUUUUAUAUUUAUUGUUGAAUGUAUGGUUUGCUAC CUAUUGUA (SEQ ID NO:17).

56. (Amended) An RNA comprising the consensus sequence AAANUUUAUAUUUAUUN UUNNAUNNANGNUNN (SEQ ID NO:18) and having a first double stranded region, a first internal loop region, a second double stranded region, and an end loop region.

B<sup>2</sup> 57. (Amended) An *in silico* representation of an RNA fragment that is conserved across at least two species comprising the sequence AAANUUUAUAUUUAUUNUUNNAUNNANG NUNN (SEQ ID NO:18).

58. (Amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment that is conserved across at least two

species comprising the sequence AAANUUUAUAUUUAUUNUUNNAUNNANGNUNN (SEQ ID NO:18).

59. (Amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment comprising the human sequence AAAUUUUAUAUUUAUUGUUGAAUGUAUGGUU (SEQ ID NO:19).

81. (Amended) An RNA comprising the consensus sequence NNUNNNNNNNGAUCN UNNNNGAUNCUUUNUNNNAN(or absent)N(or absent)CCNNNNNNN (SEQ ID NO:20) and having a first double stranded region, a first internal loop region, a second double stranded region, and a first end loop region, a third double stranded region, and a second end loop region.

82. (Amended) An *in silico* representation of an RNA fragment that is conserved across at least two species comprising the sequence NNUNNNNNNNGAUCNUNNNNGAUNCUUUNU NNNAN(or absent)N(or absent)CCNNNNNNN (SEQ ID NO:20).

83. (Amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment that is conserved across at least two species comprising the sequence NNUNNNNNNNGAUCNUNNNNGAUNCUUUNU NNNAN(or absent)N(or absent)CCNNNNNNN (SEQ ID NO:20).

84. (Amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment comprising the human sequence UAUAUAUAUGGAUCUUUAUGAUUCUUUUUGUAAGCCCUAGGGGC (SEQ ID NO:21).

85. (Amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment comprising the mouse sequence GAUAAAUAUGGAUCUUAAAGAUUCUUUUUGUAAGCCCAAGGGC (SEQ ID NO:22).

86. (Amended) A purified and isolated RNA fragment comprising the rat sequence